

**WHAT SHOULD YOU DO  
IF YOU BELIEVE YOU OR  
SOMEONE YOU KNOW  
IS A VICTIM OF HUMAN  
TRAFFICKING?**

1. Call the police immediately.
2. Document what happened.
3. Save any evidence that might be needed to apprehend or prosecute the criminal.

**TELEPHONE DIRECTORY**

Emergency	911
Office of the District Attorney	408-299-7400
Trafficking Hotline	1-888-373-7888
Victim Witness Assistance	408-295-2656

**LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT**

California Highway Patrol	408-467-5400
Campbell Police Department	408-866-2121
Gilroy Police Department	408-846-0350
Los Altos Police Department	650-947-2770
Los Gatos Police Department	408-354-5257
Milpitas Police Department	408-586-2400

Monte Sereno Police Department	408-354-5257
Morgan Hill Police Department	408-779-2101
Mountain View Police Department	650-903-6344
Palo Alto Police Department	650-329-2406
San Jose Police Department	408-277-8900
Sheriff's Office	408-299-2622
Santa Clara Police Department	408-615-4700
Sunnyvale Dept. of Public Safety	408-730-7110



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Rev. 0818



**L.E.I.H.T. TASK FORCE**

Law Enforcement to Investigate Human Trafficking

**Bringing light to the lives  
of human trafficking victims**

**HUMAN  
TRAFFICKING**

Santa Clara County  
Office of the District Attorney  
L.E.I.H.T. Task Force  
[scchumantrafficking@da.sccgov.org](mailto:scchumantrafficking@da.sccgov.org)

## WHAT IS HUMAN TRAFFICKING?

Human Trafficking primarily involves exploitation. It is a crime that involves the use of force, fraud, coercion, threats of violence and isolation to keep the victims enslaved.

The U.S. Department of State estimates as many as 1 million people are trafficked across international borders each year. Roughly 80 percent of victims are women and children.

The California Penal Code defines a trafficker as anyone who deprives or violates the personal liberty of another with the intent to obtain forced labor or services or commercial sex acts or anyone who causes, induces, persuades, or attempts to cause, induce or persuade a minor to engage in a commercial sex act.

Depriving or violating a person's liberty includes "substantial and sustained restriction of another's liberty through fraud, deceit, coercion, violence, duress, menace or threat of unlawful injury to the victim or to another person, under circumstances where the person receiving the threat reasonably believes that it is likely that the person making the threat would carry it out."

## FORMS OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING

Human Trafficking comes in a variety of forms.

- Forced prostitution
- Slavery or involuntary servitude
- Sexual acts for pornography
- Debt bondage – financial obligations, honor-bound to satisfy a debt

Traffickers use various techniques to instill fear in victims and to keep them enslaved. Some traffickers keep victims under lock and key; however most use less obvious techniques.

- Isolation from the public – limiting contact with outsiders and making sure that any contact is monitored or superficial in nature
- Isolation from family members and/or members of their ethnic and religious community
- Confiscation of passports/visas and/or identification documents
- The threat of shaming the victim by exposing circumstance to their family
- Telling the victim they will be imprisoned or deported for immigration violations if they alert the authorities
- Controlling the victim's money for "safe-keeping"
- Threats of violence towards the victim or their family members

Victims of human trafficking come from various backgrounds, ages, socioeconomic status and education. The common thread is vulnerability.

Victims who are undocumented immigrants often do not report the abuse due to distrust of law enforcement, fear of arrest, fear family members will be harmed, fear of deportation or fear of other reasons.

## WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN HUMAN TRAFFICKING AND SMUGGLING?

These terms can be confused, however they are separate and different crimes. Human Trafficking is a crime against the person where as Smuggling is a crime against the state.

Smuggling happens when a person voluntarily requests or hires a person known as a smuggler to transport him or her across the border for a fee.

Theoretically, a person who is smuggled into the United States is free to leave upon payment of the prearranged fee. A victim of human trafficking is enslaved to supply labor or other services. Human trafficking does not require travel or transportation across borders. Human trafficking can and does happen domestically with victims who are born and raised in California and other states.